

*Los Alamos National Laboratory*  
*Observance of Patriot Day - Wednesday, September 11, 2002*

*On January 3, 2002, The Congress of the United States of America passed a Joint Resolution designating September 11 as Patriot Day in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001. Today, the Laboratory pays tribute to reflect upon this time in history and solemnly express great hope for and dedication to our nation's future.*

*Director John C. Browne Remarks - Presented by John Immele, Deputy Director, National Security*

*"Good morning. Thank you for coming to this solemn time of remembrance.*

*Earlier this morning, our flag was lowered to half-staff in keeping with the Congressional Proclamation of today as Patriot Day. Our observance marks the events that followed the first hijacked airliner striking the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York one year ago today. In that moment, our lives were changed forever.*

*We all know some of the many stories of grief, anguish and heroism that followed. The pictures from that morning are burned indelibly into our memories:*

- Commercial aircraft striking first the north and then the south Trade Center towers,*
- Black smoke in the skies over the Pentagon,*
- And then the unbelievable crumbling of first one and then the second tower.*

*Our country was under attack. Innocent civilians were murdered. Heroic police, fire and rescue personnel gave their lives in a selfless effort to save the lives of others. Military personnel died at desks in the Pentagon, far from the battlefields for which they were trained.*

*And in a fourth aircraft, determined passengers who heard the news from New York and Washington vowed they would not allow their hijackers to bring that plane to its intended destination of terror. The moment of silence we will observe here coincides with the last of that morning's tragic events - when that fourth and final plane crashed into a rainy Pennsylvania field.*

*We play special roles in our nation's defense and homeland security here at the Laboratory. But this morning, I ask you to pause and lay aside that work just for a moment following the playing of Taps. Lay it aside to remember. Lay it aside to give thanks for this nation and for all who endeavor to protect it - and us - from such unspeakable malice."*

*Gun Salute - Lt. Nicolas Walker, Commander,  
Protection Technology Los Alamos Honor Guard*

*"Taps" - SPO Michael Pooler, Protection Technology Los Alamos*

*A Moment of Silence - Employees of the Laboratory and major contractors, the National Nuclear Security Administration and the University of California - 8:10 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time*

*Bagpipe - The Ground from "His Father's Lament for Donald MacKenzie,"  
a traditional Scottish piobaireachd, performed by Donald Machen*